

## **NEW Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC) Extensions November 2009 (Revised 11/16/09)**

Two new EUC extensions were passed by Congress and signed by the President on Friday, November 6, 2009. In summary, the new law:

- Adds **up to 1 additional week** to EUC Tier II (total of 14 weeks);
- Creates an EUC Tier III for an **additional up to 13 weeks** of benefits; and
- Creates an EUC Tier IV for high unemployment states, such as Michigan, for an **additional up to 6 weeks**.

### **Who is Eligible, How Will They Be Notified, and What Needs To Be Done?**

- Those who exhaust their Extended Benefits (EB) in 2009 may qualify.
- 70,000-80,000 unemployed workers who have exhausted all unemployment benefits may qualify.
- Payments will be made retroactive to the new EUC extension's effective date of November 8, 2009.
- **If you have exhausted all benefits:**
  - UIA will begin mailing informational letters, complete with instructions and redeterminations, on or about Wednesday, November 18, 2009.
  - Begin contacting MARVIN (telephone or online) during the week of November 23<sup>rd</sup> (Thanksgiving week) to claim the up to 1 additional week from Tier II.
  - Contact MARVIN during the week of December 6, 2009, to certify for three weeks of Tier III (the up to 13 weeks tier).
- **If you are currently collecting state unemployment, EUC Tier I, Tier II, or Extended Benefits (EB):**
  - Continue to report using MARVIN.
  - UIA will mail redeterminations to those on Tier II and EB, by November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2009.

### **Important Notes:**

- **EUC Tiers I–IV have expiration dates.** As of now, all EUC benefits (Tiers I-IV) are due to expire 12-31-2009. **If you are already collecting EUC benefits that week, you may continue collecting the weeks for which you are entitled.** You will be unable to begin the next EUC tier after that week – the week of expiration. Note that the popular media is reporting the possibility that Congress may extend the expiration dates yet this year. You may apply for EB, if the EB extension program is still available.

### **Current Unemployment Programs:**

- **State regular unemployment** provides up to 26 weeks of benefits, based on a worker's earnings prior to becoming unemployed.
- **EUC Tier I** began in July 2008 and provides an unemployed worker with up to 20 weeks of federally funded unemployment benefits, once they exhaust their state benefits. EUC Tier I = 80% of a person's state unemployment benefits, up to 20 weeks.

- **EUC Tier II** began in November 2008 and provides up to 13 weeks of federally funded benefits after a person exhausts EUC Tier I. Tier II = 50% of a person's state unemployment benefits, up to 13 weeks. Effective November 8, 2009, Tier II now provides for up to 54% of a person's state unemployment benefits, *up to 14 weeks*. Benefit payments for EUC Tier II will range from \$48 to one full week of \$387.
- **EUC Tier III** is effective November 8, 2009 and provides up to 13 weeks of federally funded EUC benefits after a person exhausts EUC Tier II. Tier III = 50% of a person's state unemployment benefits, up to 13 weeks.
- **EUC Tier IV** is also effective November 8, 2009 and provides up to 6 weeks of federally funded EUC benefits after a person exhausts Tier III. Tier IV = 24% of a person's state unemployment benefits, up to 6 weeks. Tier IV is payable in Michigan because Michigan is a high unemployment state.
- **Extended Benefits (EB)** began in January 2009 and provides up to 20 weeks of federally funded benefits after a person exhausts EUC Tier III. EB = 80% of a person's state unemployment benefits, up to 20 weeks. Absent Congressional action, the 20 week EB program will be reduced to 13 weeks for *new EB claims established in 2010*.

**UIA will update information about the EUC and EB extensions on this website.**